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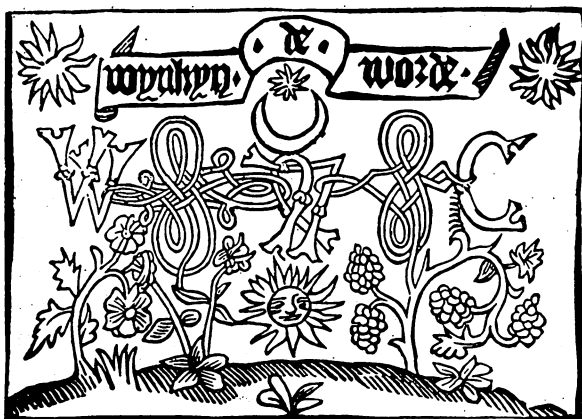
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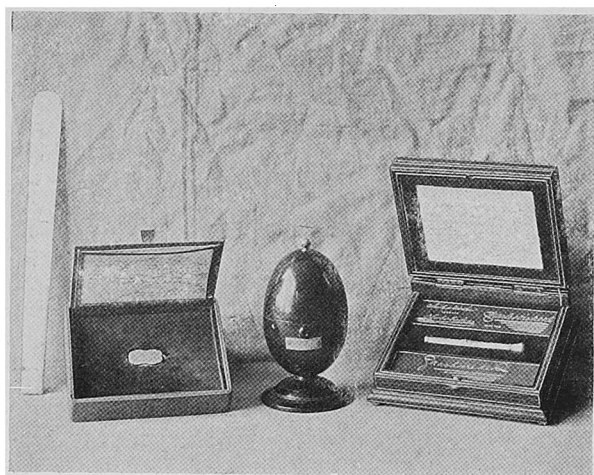
Notes on New Books

The Dickens Circle, by J. W. T. Ley (E. P. Dutton & Co., New York) is one of the most delightful volumes that has come to the reviewer's table. Mr. Ley, who stands without peer as an authority on Dickens, has here given us a book that at once furnishes a reliable estimate of the many-sided Boz in his personal qualities and as reflected by the circle in which he moved and the era in which he lived. *The Dickens Circle* will find a permanent place beside Forester's classic *Life of Charles Dickens*. It is a true pleasure to read every page of Mr. Ley's work. In no sense is it a mere collection of facts and anecdotes; instead it is an important scholarly contribution to a knowledge of the men and women of the Victorian era, as entertaining as it is valuable. Over forty illustrations accompany the text and an unusually complete index adds to the book's reference value.

In Arthur Whaley's second volume of verse from the Chinese, *More Translations from the Chinese* (Alfred A. Knopf, New York), we have sixty-eight poems, fifty-five of which have not heretofore been translated into English. The account of the history and technique of Chinese poetry which is found in the introduction of Mr. Whaley's earlier volume, *170 Chinese Poems* (Alfred A. Knopf, New York), will be remembered with pleasure

and those who read it will the better enjoy *More Translations from the Chinese* for having done so. The present volume aims more consistently at poetic form, perhaps than did *170 Chinese Poems*, although the earlier book should have been taken as an experiment in English unrhymed verse. Mr. Waley wisely adds to our opportunity for a glimpse of Chinese poetry in not translating for his new volume so many of the poems of Li Po and of Tu Fu as he has of Po Chü-i, whose work has been less accessible in translations than the work of the other two noted Chinese poets. The fifty-three Po-Chü-i poems occupy about half the pages of *More Translations from the Chinese* but no one will quarrel with the sensible extent of this contribution to our knowledge of that master.

The Practical Book of Interior Decoration by Harold Donaldson Eberlein, Abbot McClure and Edward Stratton Halloway (J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia and London), gives in its first part a consecutive and synoptic picture of the art of interior decoration as it has been practiced in England, France, Italy and Spain since the beginning of the Sixteenth century, with comment on American modifications of British usage during the Colonial and early Republican periods. In the second part of the volume is made the direct appli-



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